

## **Historic, archived document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



# Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS



VOLUME 58

NUMBER 20

Cotton Review (Page 469)

Whale Oil Production (Page 476)

Late News (468)

## CONTENTS

	Page
COTTON AND OTHER FIBER	
Review of 1948-49 World Cotton Production.....	469
Cotton Consumption in Finland Improving.....	485
U.S. Cotton Exports Reaching Prewar Level.....	486
Cotton-Price Quotations on Foreign Markets.....	488
FATS AND OILS	
Whale Oil Production in 1948-49 Approximates Last Season's Level.....	476
U.S. Imports of Specified Vegetable Oil and Oilseeds...	479
U.S. Exports of Specified Fats, Oils and Oilseeds.....	480
Belgium's Output of Fats and Oils Approaches Prewar Level.....	481
FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTS	
Potato Surpluses Not Confined to the U.S.....	489
Argentine Forage Crop Seed Situation.....	490
GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS	
U.S. Exports Less Rice in March.....	475
Siam's Rice Exports Continue Heavy.....	476
Canada's Wheat Seeding Well Advanced; Rains Needed....	491
Wheat Feeding in Canada Reduced.....	491
TOBACCO	
Siam's Flue-Cured Production at Record Level; Further Increase Planned.....	483
Egypt's Tobacco Imports Increase; Exports of Products Decline.....	484
Nicaragua's Flue-Cured Production Larger.....	485
TROPICAL PRODUCTS	
Record 1948 Tea Production in India and Pakistan.....	482

FOR RELEASE

MONDAY

MAY 16, 1949

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS  
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

LIBRARY  
CURRENT AFFAIRS RECORDS

JUN 6 1949

---

---

L A T E   N E W S

---

---

Production of olive oil in Italy from the 1948-49 olive crop was 107,720 short tons, only 38 percent of the 284,100 tons officially reported as produced from the 1947-48 crop. In view of the low quality of the oil the 1948-49 output is reported as the poorest in the last 20 years in Italy.

- - - - -

The rate at which domestic wheat is required to be mixed with imported wheat in Belgian flour was reduced from 35 to 15 percent, effective March 28, 1949. However, the extraction rates on domestic and imported wheat remain at 72 and 80 percent, respectively. As a result of these factors, the average extraction rate in Belgium is increased from 77.2 to 78.8 percent. In that country bread has been unrationed since the beginning of November 1948.

- - - - -

In Southern Korea, favorable climatic conditions and the increased use of Fertilizers made available by the U.S. Army and the Economic Cooperation Administration have resulted in recent good crops. Present indications are that Southern Korea may even develop an exportable surplus of grain including rice in 1950, as reported by the American Mission in Seoul. Because of the food deficit in that area since the end of World War II, food grain exports were prohibited. During the first half of 1949 it is planned to import 45,000 metric tons (1.7 million bushels) of wheat and wheat flour, with no imports currently scheduled for the latter half of the year.

---

**FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS**

---

Published weekly to inform producers, processors, distributors and consumers of farm products of current developments abroad in the crop and livestock industries, foreign trends in prices and consumption of farm products, and world agricultural trade. Circulation of this periodical is free to those needing the information it contains for dissemination and other related activities. Issued by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Washington 25, D. C.

## REVIEW OF 1948-49 WORLD COTTON PRODUCTION

World cotton production in 1948-49, now estimated at about 29,140,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), is 3,920,000 bales above a revised estimate of 25,220,000 for 1947-48. The 1948-49 crop is the highest since 1940-41 and nearly equal to the 5-year prewar average with the exception of the record crop of 1937-38. Most of the increased production in 1948-49 took place in the United States. World production this year exceeds world consumption for the first time since World War II.

Upward revisions in the 1948-49 estimates for the Soviet Union, Brazil, and Argentina, totaling about 500,000 bales, were nearly offset by downward revisions in the estimates for China, India, and Pakistan. Production in foreign countries, totaling about 14,275,000 bales in 1948-49, is still well below the prewar average of 18,525,000 bales. The rise from the low wartime levels has been slow and there is no present indication that foreign production as a whole will approach the prewar level in the next 2 or 3 years.

The 1948 crop of 560,000 bales in Mexico is the largest on record and about 9 percent larger than the next largest crop of 516,000 bales harvested in 1943. The steady upward trend in production during the past 15 years or more is attributed to a proportionate rise in acreage with a slight improvement in yields. Nearly all of the crop is produced under irrigation.

In El Salvador the 1948-49 crop of 21,000 bales was about equal to those of the previous 2 years and all 3 were about four times the average production during the 5 years ended July 31, 1940. The 1948-49 crop of 6,000 bales in Haiti was badly damaged by boll weevil attack and amounted to little more than one-fourth of the 5-year average. Not much change has occurred in other parts of Central America and the Caribbean Area in recent years.

The final United States cotton report just released places the 1948-49 crop at 14,868,000 bales from 22,768,000 harvested acres. These figures are slightly lower than the last previous estimates for 1948 but represent increases of 25 percent and 7 percent, respectively, over the 11,857,000 bales from 21,269,000 acres a year ago. The average yield of 313.1 pounds of lint per acre in 1948 is the highest on record, comparing with 267.3 pounds in 1947 and the 10-year average of 254.2 pounds. The high yield was due not only to exceptionally favorable weather but also to increased use of fertilizer, and to a larger proportion of the acreage being planted in the higher-yielding areas.

Cotton production in Europe, mostly in Greece, Bulgaria, Spain, Rumania, Italy, and Yugoslavia, in that order of importance, has practically doubled since the end of the war. The total of 155,000 bales for 1948-49 is slightly higher than the 147,000 prewar average. These figures represent only about 10 percent of the annual requirements of the 6 countries that produce cotton.

COTTON: Acreage and production in specified areas,  
average 1935-39, annual 1945-48  $\frac{a}{b}$

Continent and country	Acreage				Production b/			
	Year beginning August 1		Year beginning August 1		Year beginning August 1		Year beginning August 1	
	Average : 1935-39	1945 : acres	1946 : acres	1947 $\frac{c}{d}$ : acres	Average : 1935-39	1945 : bales	1946 : bales	1947 $\frac{c}{d}$ : bales
<b>NORTH AMERICA:</b>								
El Salvador.....	9 :	24 :	38 :	38 :	5 :	11 :	20 :	22 :
Guatemala.....	- :	- :	9 :	7 :	2 :	3 :	5 :	5 :
Mexico.....	725 :	904 :	843 :	927 :	334 :	434 :	460 :	484 :
Nicaragua.....	9 :	5 :	1 :	- :	8 :	4 :	1 :	- :
United States.....	27,788 :	17,241 :	17,615 :	21,269 :	13,149 :	9,015 :	8,640 :	11,857 :
British West Indies.....	20 :	12 :	7 :	7 :	5 :	3 :	2 :	2 :
Haiti.....	- :	40 :	25 :	40 :	22 :	11 :	8 :	11 :
Puerto Rico.....	2 :	- :	- :	- :	1 :	2 :	d/ :	d/ :
Total $\frac{e}{f}$ .....	28,642 :	18,240 :	18,543 :	22,297 :	23,916 :	9,483 :	9,136 :	12,385 :
<b>EUROPE:</b>								
Bulgaria.....	8 :	61 :	98 :	105 :	35 :	10 :	20 :	28 :
Greece.....	168 :	72 :	126 :	105 :	76 :	31 :	50 :	53 :
Italy.....	56 :	34 :	45 :	45 :	21 :	9 :	12 :	15 :
Romania $\frac{f}{g}$ .....	8 :	109 :	104 :	109 :	2 :	20 :	9 :	16 :
Spain.....	46 :	133 :	142 :	108 :	10 :	8 :	23 :	27 :
Yugoslavia.....	8 :	- :	- :	- :	3 :	- :	- :	- :
Total $\frac{e}{f}$ .....	372 :	420 :	526 :	499 :	147 :	80 :	118 :	149 :
<b>U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia).....</b>	5,087 :	2,995 :	3,215 :	3,625 :	3,430 :	1,700 :	2,240 :	2,400 :
<b>ASIA:</b>								
Cyprus.....	11 :	- :	- :	- :	3 :	2 :	1 :	1 :
Iran.....	452 :	303 :	182 :	205 :	171 :	92 :	64 :	80 :
Iraq.....	53 :	25 :	45 :	48 :	11 :	5 :	4 :	4 :
Syria.....	85 :	44 :	29 :	48 :	23 :	22 :	22 :	25 :
Turkey.....	667 :	572 :	610 :	502 :	680 :	166 :	204 :	218 :
Afghanistan.....	- :	- :	- :	- :	49 :	20 :	9 :	- :
Burma.....	428 :	226 :	135 :	192 :	195 :	32 :	21 :	35 :
China (including Manchuria).....	7,038 :	5,600 :	5,556 :	6,400 :	2,855 :	1,830 :	1,925 :	2,336 :
French Indochina.....	36 :	- :	- :	- :	6 :	3 :	- :	3 :
Japan.....	12 :	12 :	14 :	14 :	1 :	2 :	- :	4 :
Korea.....	24,204 :	10,933 :	11,434 :	10,932 :	5,348 :	2,358 :	2,342 :	2,510 :
Netherlands Indies.....	564 :	442 :	312 :	355 :	180 :	103 :	75 :	64 :
Pakistan.....	27 :	- :	- :	- :	9 :	1 :	1 :	1 :
Philippine Islands.....	5 :	10 :	3,230 :	3,122 :	2,800 :	1,171 :	1,157 :	925 :
Siam.....	16 :	- :	81 :	87 :	- :	17 :	23 :	27 :
Total $\frac{e}{f}$ .....	33,805 :	21,231 :	21,721 :	21,975 :	21,368 :	5,832 :	5,856 :	6,016 :
								5,125 :

## SOUTH AMERICA:

Argentina.....	770:	813:	892: h/	1,037: h/	1,222:	289:	285:	334:	423:	500
Brazil.....	5,562:	5,200:	5,700:	4,800:	5,300:	1,956:	1,350:	1,350:	1,260:	1,465
Colombia.....	98:	-	-	-	-	23:	21:	21:	25:	29
Ecuador.....	40:	32:	35:	-	-	13:	7:	10:	10:	7
Paraguay.....	111:	124:	126:	74: h/	148:	40:	44:	55:	33:	50
Peru.....	428:	346:	309:	321:	346:	384:	329:	299:	275:	325
Venezuela.....	50:	-	-	-	-	11:	13:	11:	10:	10
Total e/.....	7,060:	6,712:	7,249:	6,439:	7,233:	2,716:	2,049:	2,080:	2,076:	2,386

## AFRICA AND OCEANIA:

Anglo Egyptian Sudan.....	439:	321:	336:	363:	-	248:	194:	235:	216:	251
Belgian Congo.....	874:	760:	740:	754:	-	172:	181:	172:	184:	190
Kenya.....	-	-	-	28: h/	43:	13:	4:	4:	4:	10
Nyasaland.....	84:	-	-	-	-	12:	8:	9:	11:	-
Tanganyika.....	-	-	-	-	-	50:	34:	34:	42:	45
Uganda.....	1,477:	1,146:	1,253:	1,037:	1,551:	281:	191:	193:	141:	312
Egypt.....	1,821:	1,020:	1,258:	1,302:	1,496:	1,993:	1,082:	1,252:	1,314:	1,772
French Equatorial Africa.....	390:	-	-	-	-	41:	106:	78:	108:	-
French Morocco.....	1:	4:	-	-	-	2:	2:	-	-	-
French West Africa.....	-	-	-	-	-	28:	9:	9:	14:	-
Mozambique.....	-	-	-	-	-	33:	99:	110:	101:	-
Nigeria.....	-	-	-	-	-	36:	31:	28:	35:	50
Angola.....	73:	-	-	-	-	13:	20:	27:	24:	20
Southern Rhodesia.....	2:	4:	4:	4:	4:	3:	1:	1:	1:	1
Union of South Africa.....	-	-	3:	-	-	2:	3:	1:	2:	5
Australia.....	53:	7:	8:	8: h/	5:	11:	2:	2:	2:	1
Total e/.....	6,112:	5,232:	5,496:	5,215:	6,017:	2,840:	1,966:	2,160:	2,204:	2,906

## World total e/.....

World total e/.....	81,112:	54,890:	56,750:	60,090:	62,865:	31,676:	21,110:	21,590:	25,220:	29,140
---------------------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	--------

a/ United States production in bales of 500 pounds gross weight (480 pounds net); others in bales of 478 pounds net through 1945 and 480 pounds thereafter. b/ Years shown refer to years of harvest. c/ Preliminary. d/ Less than 500. e/ Includes estimates for minor-producing countries not listed above and allowances for other figures not available. f/ Figures for 1943 to date are not comparable with prewar figures because of boundary changes. g/ Pakistan included with India. h/ Planted area. i/ Exports.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics, reports of United States Foreign Service officers and results of office research.

New information regarding 1947 and 1948 cotton production in Uzbekistan, the most important cotton growing region, of the Soviet Union, and some other regions in Central Asia led to the revision of the 1947 and 1948 production figures. The 1947 crop is now estimated at 2,400,000 bales as against the former published figure of 2,600,000 and the 1948 crop is placed at 2,800,000 bales as against the earlier estimate of 2,500,000 bales. It should be borne in mind that there is no complete information available on the total ginned Soviet crop and the above estimates are, therefore, still tentative and subject to further revision as more information becomes available. The amount of cotton harvested in 1948 may have been smaller than production estimates would indicate because of reported harvesting difficulties. As in earlier years, production goals of the government plans were not reached in 1948. Although unfavorable weather conditions were no doubt in part responsible, there has been official criticism of the efficiency of management and workers on many collective farms in the cotton-growing regions.

That the difficulty experienced by the Soviet Government in its drive to increase cotton production was due in no small measure to the lack of incentive to grow cotton on the part of the farmers is attested by the fact that a new decree, issued in February 1949, contains provisions aimed at increasing the earnings of cotton growers with a view to stimulating their interest in a larger output. In addition, the decree (the full text of which is not yet available) prescribes various other measures to increase cotton production. Thus the Soviet Government campaign for larger cotton supplies, apparently spurred by the desire to provide more cotton for the textile industries in the eastern European countries of the Soviet bloc, has continued unabated during the current year. The Government program, however, is threatened at the outset by unfavorable weather conditions this spring which delayed cotton planting. This may affect the yields adversely.

The 1948-49 estimate for India has been further reduced to 1,940,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross) from the previous estimate of 2,050,000 and is the smallest crop for many years. The reduction is attributed mostly to drought in the Gujerat and Saurashtra areas and heavy unseasonal rains in central India. In Pakistan, current estimates of the 1948-49 crop average about 833,000 bales, a reduction of 222,000 from the last report and 92,000 below last year's crop. The smaller crop is attributed to a reduction of nearly 10 percent in acreage and to subnormal conditions, particularly in the West Punjab. Arrivals at Karachi to April 14, 1949, from that province were about 36 percent below those of a year ago at the same date.

Accurate estimating of the China crop is difficult because of the spread of military activities in the Civil War through a major portion of the cotton areas. Information reported recently by Owen L. Dawson, Agricultural Attache at the American Consulate General, Shanghai, indicates a crop of about 2,115,000 bales in 1948-49 or about the same as a year ago. Production was reported higher than last year in northern China

where high cotton prices encouraged farmers to plant a larger acreage and weather conditions were favorable. Excessive rain and floods in central China caused decreases in some of the principal cotton areas.

There is little change to report in Turkey where the 1948-49 crop of 235,000 bales is slightly higher than those of the 2 previous years and slightly below the prewar average of 249,000 bales. A larger increase was expected in 1948 until the crop suffered heavy infestation by corn ear-worms. About 93 percent of the 1948 crop was of the Acala variety and the remainder was an Asiatic (native) type called Yerli.

The Korean crop of 77,000 bales in 1948-49 was less than half of the prewar average of 180,000 as cotton continued to give way to expanding food crops. The wartime Japanese policy of increasing cotton production in Korea resulted in a rise to more than 200,000 bales annually with a consequent reduction in food crops. Postwar scarcity and high prices of food caused a diversion of considerable cotton land to food crops. Production in other countries of Asia is generally below the prewar average (except in Siam and Syria) because of pressure to maintain production of food crops.

The 1948-49 crop in Brazil, now estimated at 1,465,000 bales, is 65,000 above the last previous estimate due mostly to an upward revision in North Brazil figures. This crop is somewhat larger than those of the previous 3 years but 25 percent below the 5-year prewar average. Increased production this year is attributed mostly to increased acreage. Weather conditions in South Brazil have been favorable for the crop now being harvested and the average quality may equal the high quality of the 1947-48 crop.

Migration of farm labor to urban areas for higher wages since the latter part of the war period, high local prices for food products, and several consecutive years of unfavorable weather for cotton are the principal factors responsible for reduced cotton production since 1943-44. There is little prospect for a return to the high wartime level of production as long as a large portion of farm labor is attracted to urban areas by steady employment and high wages.

In Argentina a near-record crop of at least 500,000 bales (unofficial estimate) is now being harvested from record plantings estimated at about 1,222,000 acres. This production estimate is 18 percent above that for 1947-48 and 73 percent above the prewar average of 289,000 bales. Growing conditions were exceptionally favorable until late in March when heavy rains in the Chaco may have caused some damage to cotton being picked (the picking season starts about March 1).

Widespread shortage of labor was reported this year and as in Brazil, it was due to attraction of farm labor to urban areas for higher wages and better living conditions. Greater mechanization is being sought as a solution to the problem of labor shortage.

The 1948-49 cotton crop in Peru is tentatively estimated at about 325,000 bales, compared with 275,000 last year, but it is too early for an accurate estimate as picking in heavy volume is usually begun in April. A small increase in acreage from 321,000 to 346,000 acres was reported and weather conditions were more favorable than for the last crop. The outlook for production of Pima this year is more favorable because of adequate water for irrigation and better control of insect pests.

Cotton acreage is only slightly above the low restricted wartime level. The principal causes for continued low cotton acreage are the Peruvian Government's requirements that a certain percentage of the cultivated land on the coastal plantations be planted to food crops and the relatively high prices available for food crops.

Growing conditions in Paraguay have been favorable for cotton during the 1948-49 season to date and a crop of at least 50,000 bales is expected from the 148,000 acres planted. The quality of the crop is also reported to be better than average.

Production and acreage in Colombia, Venezuela, and Ecuador do not vary much from year to year. All 3 countries are deficit cotton producers and offer considerable tariff protection and other encouragement to cotton growers but the areas suitable for profitable cotton cultivation are limited.

Weather conditions were favorable for cotton growing throughout most of the African cotton areas in 1948-49 and acreage as well as yields were increased. Production in Egypt rose to 1,772,000 bales from 1,496,000 acres as result of modification of the government's cotton acreage restrictions and a higher average yield. Further modification of acreage restrictions for the 1949-50 crop, already announced, will permit a crop next year approximately equal to the prewar average of 1,893,000 bales from 1,821,000 acres. The acreage controls still in effect are intended mostly to curb the expansion of acreage planted to Karnak and other extra-long staple varieties.

Production in the Anglo-Egyptian-Sudan is up by 16 percent to 251,000 bales in 1948-49 which is about equal to the prewar average of 248,000. In the Belgian Congo, production of 190,000 bales in 1948-49 is slightly above the prewar average of 172,000 bales. Production of 312,000 bales in Uganda in 1948-49 represents an increase of 121 percent above the abnormally small crop of 141,000 in 1947-48 and 11 percent above the prewar average of 281,000 bales. Smaller increases were reported in Tanganyika and Kenya in East Africa and Nigeria in West Africa.

---

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. For this report, the Committee was composed of Joseph A. Becker, Chairman, Charles H. Barber, Dwight R. Bishop, Lazar Volin, and Mary E. Long.

## COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDSU. S. EXPORTS LESS  
RICE IN MARCH

United States rice exports in March totaled 51 million pounds, a decline from 70 million in February. In comparison with the 64 million pounds exported in March of last year, shipments were one-fifth smaller. More than one-half of the rice was delivered to Cuba, and 24 percent to countries in the Far East. Exports to Europe were the largest in 12 months.

Rice exports of 621 million pounds during the August-March period of the current marketing year were only slightly less than the 635 million in the corresponding period of the year before. Despite a decline in March, deliveries to Cuba during the months August through March comprised 67 percent of the total shipments abroad.

RICE: United States exports to specified countries, March 1949, with comparisons 1/

Continent and country	August-July		August-March		March	
	1937-38:		1948-49:		1949	
	to		1947-48:		1948	
	1941-42:		2/		2/	
	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
Europe.....	43	22	16	24	6	6
Cuba.....	275	527	383	419	1	27
Canada.....	19	54	50	32	6	2
British West Indies..	3/	11	6	7	3/	2
China.....	4/	203	109	15	42	3
Korea.....	4/	54	49	0	0	0
Indonesia.....	4/	1	1	89	0	9
Other countries.....	21	23	21	35	9	2
Total.....	358	895	635	621	64	51

1/ Milled rice, including brown, broken, screenings, and brewers' rice, and rough rice converted to terms of milled at 65 percent. 2/ Preliminary.  
3/ Less than 500,000 pounds. 4/ If any, included in "Other countries."

Bureau of the Census.

SIAM'S RICE EXPORTS  
CONTINUE HEAVY

Rice exports from Siam during April amounted to 308 million pounds, bringing the January-April 1949 total to 1,209 million pounds. This was double the 602 million pounds exported during the corresponding months of 1948. Purchases of the 1948-49 crop from December 1 through April 17 totaled 1,944 million pounds.

SIAM: Rice exports, April 1949, with comparisons

M O N T H S	Y E A R			
	1939	1947	1948	1949
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
January.....	293	95	121	226
February.....	325	43	141	328
March.....	381	73	162	347
April.....	363	126	178	308
January-April..	1,362	337	602	1,209
January-Dec. .	3,802	871	1,789	-

American Embassy, Bangkok.

(Continued on Page 491)

FATS AND OILS

WHALE OIL PRODUCTION IN 1948-49  
APPROXIMATES LAST SEASON'S LEVEL

Southern Hemisphere output of total whale oil, including sperm, for the 1948-49 season is estimated at 438,000 short tons, compared to 431,000 tons last season and 529,500 tons prewar.

The Southern Hemisphere production accounts for over 95 percent of the world output of whale oil. About 90 percent of the Hemisphere's production is from whales caught in the Antarctic and the balance is from the catch of shore stations that hunt herds moving to or from the Antarctic. The output of whale oil in the 1948-49 season is just slightly below that of the previous season whereas sperm oil output is up by around 40 percent. Whale oil output has increased to over 82 percent of the prewar figure, but sperm oil production is less than one-third of prewar. (See table.)

The principal whale oil-producing countries operating in the Southern Hemisphere this past season were Norway and the United Kingdom, each of which engaged in pelagic whaling and also operated from one land station. The Netherlands, Japan and the Soviet Union also entered into pelagic whaling, but on a much smaller scale than Norway and the United Kingdom. Argentina operated a land station in South Georgia Island, and the Union of South Africa and Chile operated from land stations closer to their homelands.

WHALE OIL: Southern Hemisphere production <sup>1/</sup>,  
average season 1933-34 to 1935-37, season 1945-46 to 1948-49

Country	Season											
	1933-34			1935-37			1945-46			1946-47		
	Average	to	Total	Average	to	Total	Average	to	Total	Average	to	Total
	1,000	tons	1,000	1,000	tons	1,000	1,000	tons	1,000	1,000	tons	1,000
	short	tons	short	short	tons	short	short	tons	short	short	tons	short
	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons
Argentina.....	11.3	8.0	.4	8.4	8.3	.6	8.9	7.9	.5	8.4	12.0	.4
Chile <sup>2/</sup> .....	1.5	.9	2.9	3.8	.9	2.3	3.2	1.9	2.4	4.3	2.0	2.9
Japan.....	15.3	-	-	-	13.6	-	13.6	19.6	-	19.6	21.9	-
Netherlands.....	-	-	-	-	14.3	.1	14.4	14.6	1.3	15.9	19.6	.8
Norway.....	228.2	96.9	.4	97.3	176.5	6.4	182.9	185.7	10.5	196.2 <sup>4/</sup>	184.0	21.4 <sup>4/</sup>
Union of South Africa <sup>4/</sup> .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29.0	4.8	33.8	24.9	5.1
U.S.S.R.....	3.1	-	-	-	6.5	.1	6.6	10.4	.5	10.9 <sup>4/</sup>	12.0 <sup>4/</sup>	1.0 <sup>4/</sup>
United Kingdom.....	233.5	45.6	2.0	47.6	129.6	15.7	145.5	129.2	12.7	141.9	115.9	14.1
Total.....	529.5	151.4	5.7	157.1	349.7	25.2	374.9	398.3	32.7	431.0	392.3	45.7

<sup>1/</sup> Approximately 90 percent produced in the Southern Hemisphere is Antarctic catch and the balance is mainly shore station catch from herds enroute or departing from the Antarctic. The total Southern Hemisphere catch is over 95 percent of total world production of whale oil. <sup>2/</sup> Preliminary. <sup>3/</sup> Calendar years 1945, 1946, 1947, and 1948. <sup>4/</sup> Unofficial estimate. <sup>5/</sup> Included in U.K. production.

<sup>5/</sup> Including others - 38,600 tons.

Hyphen (-) indicates either no production or negligible production.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and other information.

In the Antarctic 1 additional floating factory and 27 more catcher boats were used this season than in 1947-48. In the 1938-39 season 34 floating factories, 2 shore stations and 281 catcher boats were in operation. Norway, the largest postwar producer, regained her prewar strength in whaling equipment which included 10 floating factories, one land station, and 108 catcher boats.

ANTARCTIC WHALING: Equipment in use  
1947-48 and 1948-49 seasons.

Country	Floating		Shore		Catchers	
	Factories		Stations			
	1947-48	1948-49	1947-48	1948-49	1947-48	1948-49
Argentina.....	-	-	1	1	7	7
Japan.....	2	2	-	-	12	14
Netherlands.....	1	1	-	-	8	10
Norway.....	9	10	1	1	91	108
United Kingdom.....	4	4	1	1	58	60
U.S.S.R. ....	1	1	-	-	8	12
Total.....	17	18	3	3	184	211

Norway in the last 2 seasons has produced about half of the total output of whale oil in the Southern Hemisphere. Whale oil production in 1948-49 was about the same as in the previous season but the sperm oil output was double. Whale oil comprises the major share of the Norwegian supply of fats and oils. For the second consecutive season the Soviet Union sent to the Antarctic a modern floating factory. With 12 catcher boats, there were 4 more than in the previous season. Rather ambitious plans have been made to increase Soviet whaling to at least 5 separate expeditions which would produce over 100,000 tons of oil. Chile's production was the result of postwar acquisition of several modern catcher boats. Production by both the Netherlands and Argentina increased substantially this season. During the 1948-49 season Argentina used 7 vessels of 400 tons each and 2 transports. With Argentina's newly equipped plant in South Georgia Island, which will be ready in 1950, it is expected that whale oil will be produced at 3 times the present rate. Argentina is also building a large floating factory.

Several countries hope to increase their whale oil production. With a continuation of international control of the catch, it is doubtful there will be a large increase in total production. The quantities of oil produced probably will vary between the participating countries from year to year but the total will remain relatively the same. The amount of whaling equipment a country has in use may play a part in determining the amount of whale oil produced within the time limits set by the International Whaling Convention.

# U. S. IMPORTS OF SPECIFIED VEGETABLE OIL AND OILSEEDS

The following table shows United States imports of specified vegetable oils and oilseeds during January-March 1949 with comparisons:

UNITED STATES: Imports <sup>1/</sup> of specified oils and oilseeds,  
January-March 1949 with comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Average		1947 <sup>2/</sup>	1948 <sup>2/</sup>	January + March	
		1935-39				1948 <sup>2/</sup>	1949 <sup>2/</sup>
Babassu kernels.....	1,000 lbs.	<sup>3/</sup>		22,233	61,929	19,540	27,370
Babassu oil.....	" "	<sup>4/</sup> 346		1,747	3,082	1,003	1,468
Castor-beans.....	" "	132,924		276,807	302,511	93,938	98,310
Castor oil.....	" "	226		6,595	2,441	1,108	921
Flaxseed.....	" bu.	18,470		282	1,066	13	124
Linseed oil.....	" lbs.	713		117,326	3,959	1,847	792
Copra.....	Short tons	230,000		677,660	447,743	163,226	68,468
Coconut oil.....	1,000 lbs.	342,717		23,559	109,096	25,039	24,795
Oiticica oil.....	" "	<sup>4/</sup> 7,673		8,471	17,558	980	4,359
Olive oil.....	" "						
Edible.....	" "	62,811		11,250	36,093	7,188	6,231
Inedible.....	" "	35,448		248	9,775	4,210	41
Palm oil.....	" "	321,482		63,212	63,328	17,680	20,996
Sesame seed.....	" "	58,425		9,479	22,606	2,560	3,320
Tea-seed oil.....	" "	13,159		6,377	3,601	523	36
Tucum kernels.....	" "	<sup>5/</sup> 9,810		16,887	11,619	4,345	9,920
Tung oil.....	" "	123,190		121,564	133,282	40,942	23,415

<sup>1/</sup> Imports for consumption.

<sup>2/</sup> Preliminary.

<sup>3/</sup> Not separately classified in Foreign Commerce and Navigation.

<sup>4/</sup> Average of less than 5 years.

<sup>5/</sup> 1939 only.

Compiled from official sources.

U. S. EXPORTS OF SPECIFIED  
FATS, OILS, AND OILSEEDS

The following table shows United States exports of specified fats, oils, and oilseeds during January-March 1949 with comparisons:

UNITED STATES: Exports of specified fats, oils, and oilseeds,  
January-March 1949 with comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1947 1/	1948 1/	January-March 1948 1/: 1949 1/	
Soybeans.....	1,000 bu.	2/ 4,793	2,505	6,497	1,241	6,623
Soybean oil						
Refined.....	1,000 lbs.	( 38,883	41,266	17,085	16,184	
Crude.....	" "	3/ (6,467	68,395	41,769	18,006	24,794
Coconut oil	" "					
Refined.....	" "	3,789	5,491	9,273	4,951	1,002
Crude.....	" "	10,442	52,427	9,820	4,457	2,079
Cottonseed oil						
Refined.....	" "	4,793	10,977	22,627	14,432	14,060
Crude.....	" "	1,515	901	10,094	1,648	10,528
Flaxseed.....	1,000 bu.	3/ 16	1,650	8	1,435	
Linseed oil.....	1,000 lbs.	1,280	9,855	29,636	3,896	1,161
Peanuts						
Shelled.....	" "	( 212,253	458,655	158,099	160,538	
Not shelled.....	" "	3/ ( 452	18,681	10,594	2,364	2,088
Peanut oil, refined	" "	4/ 325	1,579	685	546	2,161
Cooking fats.....	" "	2,111	3,594	3,522	822	1,355
Lard.....	" "	165,636	380,735	271,835	96,032	131,942
Oleomargarine.....	" "	180	19,954	3,408	2,047	673
Tallow						
Edible.....	" "	3/ (1,651	601	1,377	667	1,538
Inedible.....	" "	( 54,553	67,995	5,892	63,682	

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Average of less than 5 years.

3/ Not separately classified in Foreign Commerce and Navigation.

4/ 1939 only.

Compiled from official sources.

# BEIGIUM'S OUTPUT OF FATS AND OILS APPROACHES PREWAR LEVEL

The fats and oils situation in Belgium has improved greatly throughout the last year, according to the American Embassy, Brussels. Rationing is no longer in effect except for butter purchased from Denmark and the Netherlands in which case it serves only as a price-control device.

Belgium's production of fats and oils in 1948 was about 93,600 short tons. This volume was one-sixth less than the prewar output of approximately 112,000 tons. Production in 1949, expected to reach 106,800 tons, probably will be substantially higher than in 1948 although still somewhat below prewar.

Belgian production of fats and oils is predominantly of animal origin. In 1948 about 90 percent consisted of animal fats and oils. Only 8 percent came from oilseeds, and the remaining 2 percent was from marine sources.

Production of 54,900 tons of butterfat, in the form of butter, comprised nearly 60 percent of the total Belgian output of visible fats and oils in 1948. Prewar output of such butterfat has been estimated at 55,000 to 59,400 tons. The fat content of butter produced in 1949 is expected to be nearly 54,000 tons, or slightly below the output in 1948 of which half was produced on farms and half in creameries.

The production of lard and fat back, second largest in volume, totaled 17,600 tons in 1948. This was sharply below the prewar production of 33,100 tons. With a prospective increase of about one-third in the output of lard over production in 1948, and perhaps nearly one-half in that of fat back, the combined production of lard and fat back may go to 24,200 tons in 1949.

The production of other animal fats, consisting principally of tallow from cattle, calves, sheep, and goats, was 11,600 tons in 1948. This was not much below the prewar output of 12,300 tons. Production in 1949 may rise to 14,850 tons, substantially more than the volume produced in 1948 and before the war.

The vegetable oilseed crops, flaxseed and rapeseed, are of minor importance in Belgium. Production of linseed oil in 1948, used mainly for paint and soap, is estimated at about 6,300 tons. This was down from the prewar output of 10,500 tons but was one-fourth greater than the 5,000 tons produced in 1947. Rapeseed oil output in 1948 was approximately 1,500 tons. Although this was higher than the output in 1948 and considerably above the negligible production in prewar years, it was far below the peak output reached in 1944 as the result of a vigorous Government program to expand production.

The 1,700 tons of marine oils produced in 1948 were 600 tons greater than the output before the war.

Belgium, far from producing enough to meet its own needs, imported greater net quantities of fats and oils in 1948 than before the war. Net imports last year totaled about 198,400 tons in terms of oil. This was 13 percent above the net imported volume of the year before. Principal net imports in 1948 were: vegetable oils - 99,200 tons; oil in oilseeds - 52,900 tons; butter - 39,500 tons, and small quantities of marine oil, lard, and tallow. Most of the vegetable oil imports consisted of raw palm oil from the Belgian Congo. Other oil imports from the Congo, while Belgian crushing mills were becoming increasingly idle, were palm kernel oil, raw peanut oil, sunflower, corn, and soybean oils. Soybean oil was purchased in part from the United States and raw peanut oil from India.

Belgium exported in 1948 about 6,700 tons of oleomargarine; 4,900 tons of flaxseed (for oil); and 4,250 tons of palm kernels. Large imports and increased production in 1948 resulted in considerably larger stocks of fats and oils at the end of the year than a year earlier. Consequently, the Government offered for sale 3,300 tons of Argentine butter, about 2,200 tons of United States lard, and about 1,100 tons of South African sunflower seed. The lard was sold to Western Germany at a loss.

### TROPICAL PRODUCTS

#### RECORD 1948 TEA PRODUCTION IN INDIA AND PAKISTAN

Tea production in India and Pakistan in 1948 established an all-time record of 597 million pounds, according to the American Embassy in New Delhi. This compares with 567 million pounds in 1947, and an annual average 1935-39 production of 425 million pounds. Production in 1949 is expected to be smaller than in 1948 because planters are being urged to make more selection in plucking in order to protect themselves against a fall in prices and complaints of inferior quality.

The largest increase in tea production occurred in South India, where production increased from 98 million pounds in 1947 to 105 million pounds in 1948. Northeast India produced 446 million pounds of tea in 1948, practically the same as in 1947. Pakistan showed an increase of nearly 3 million pounds from 43 million pounds in 1947 to 46 million pounds in 1948.

The Government of India has not yet announced the total export allotment for 1949, but it is believed that it will be nearly the same as for the preceding year or about 430 million pounds. Under the International Tea Agreement, Pakistan's maximum export quota of tea has been fixed at 35 million pounds.

In 1948, the United Kingdom contracted with India for 290 million pounds of tea and with Pakistan for 28 million pounds. The British Ministry of Food has agreed to the continuance of the bulk purchase system and is expected to contract with India for a supply of about 300 million pounds of tea in 1949. India has entered into a new contract with the Soviet Union to supply 11 million pounds of tea from the 1949 crop in exchange for wheat.

Exports to the United States and other hard currency countries declined during 1948 because of higher prices and lower quality of Indian tea. The United States took only 28 million pounds of Indian tea in 1948 as compared with 39 million pounds in 1947.

In order to develop the Indian tea industry under the control of the Central Government, India has recently enacted legislation to set up a Central Tea Board, which will replace the existing Indian Tea Market Expansion Board. This Board will consist of 31 members representing the tea industry, the Central Government, the Governments of the tea-growing provinces and states, and non-official labor representatives. The functions of the Board will be to promote research, collect statistics, promote sales, improve marketing conditions, and advise tea growers and exporters in all matters.

The Government of India has appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to consider the following major problems: (1) measures to be taken to step up tea exports to hard currency countries; (2) devising ways and means of providing additional tea warehousing accommodations in Calcutta; (3) investigating the question of training Indians in the tea brokerage business, including blending and testing; and (4) methods for improving the quality of tea exported from the country.

Pakistan has decided to set up a Pakistan Tea Board. The Board will be vested with powers to regulate acreage and exports within the limits prescribed by the International Tea Agreement. The Pakistan Government intends to develop the port of Chittagong to facilitate larger exports of tea. The development program includes the construction of additional warehouses in the port.

#### TOBACCO

#### SIAM'S FLUE-CURED PRODUCTION AT RECORD LEVEL; FURTHER INCREASE PLANNED

Siam's 1948-49 flue-cured tobacco crop was the largest on record. The 1948-49 crop is estimated at 8,492,000 pounds as compared with 7,252,000 pounds in 1947-48 and 6,614,000 pounds in 1946-47, according to the American Embassy in Bangkok. Commercial production of flue-cured tobacco was started in Siam in 1933-34, when about 9,000 pounds of leaf was produced. Production exceeded 1 million pounds for the first time in 1936-37.

The area planted to flue-cured tobacco totaled 28,866 acres in 1948-49 as compared with 28,194 acres in 1947-48 and 24,000 acres in 1946-47. The 1948-49 yield per acre of about 295 pounds is extremely low when compared with the yield in most countries, but it is an improvement over the yield in prior years.

The Siam Tobacco Monopoly is encouraging flue-cured production within the country because of the large and growing domestic demand for cigarettes manufactured from this type of leaf. The Monopoly operates 9 plantations, producing about 4 million pounds of flue-cured leaf

annually, and is the only purchaser of the privately-produced, flue-cured crop. All cultivation is closely supervised by the Monopoly, which furnishes seedlings, supplies and credit to private growers. The entire crop must be delivered to the Monopoly barns at the time of harvest.

All flue-cured leaf produced in Siam is used by the Monopoly in the manufacture of cigarettes, and the demand has been so great that little or no stocks have been accumulated. The Monopoly has set a 1949-50 production goal of 9.7 million pounds from 32,000 acres. The Embassy reports that this goal is likely to be reached as prices received by growers have been good (most grades selling from 22.5 cents to 72.5 cents per pound) and the acreage planted to the crop is likely to expand. In addition, the Monopoly plans to import some commercial fertilizer for use on the crop which should result in an increased yield per acre.

#### EGYPT'S TOBACCO IMPORTS INCREASE; EXPORTS OF MANUFACTURES DECLINE

Egypt's imports of leaf and manufactured tobacco products increased and exports of manufactured tobacco products declined in 1948, according to the American Embassy in Cairo. Imports in 1948 were almost double prewar while exports were far below prewar levels.

Imports of leaf tobacco in 1948 totaled 25,312,000 pounds compared with 24,923,000 pounds in 1947 and a prewar, 1936-40, annual average of 12,896,000 pounds. Turkey supplied 8,604,000 pounds, or about 34 percent of Egypt's leaf imports in 1948. Imports from the United States totaled 2,215,000 pounds in 1948, as compared with 3,674,000 pounds in 1947 and 1,263,000 pounds in the 1936-40 period. Other countries supplying substantial quantities of leaf in 1948 include Bulgaria, India, Greece, China, Cyprus, Japan, the Soviet Union and the countries of Southern Africa. Japan, the most important prewar source of supply of leaf, supplied about 326,000 pounds in 1948, as compared with about 41,400 pounds in 1947 and an annual average of 3,215,000 pounds during the 1936-40 period.

Cigarette imports in 1948 totaled 1,908,000 pounds, compared with 1,361,000 pounds in 1947 and a prewar annual average of about 542,000 pounds. The United Kingdom supplied 1,685,000 pounds or 88 percent of the total cigarette imports in 1948. The 1948 imports of smoking tobacco totaled about 23,800 pounds and cigars about 14,150 pounds. The United Kingdom supplied about 88 percent of the total smoking tobacco imports, while the cigar imports came principally from Cuba, India, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

Cigarette exports totaled 157,460 pounds in 1948 as compared with 591,300 pounds in 1947 and an annual average of 513,500 pounds in the prewar, 1936-40, period. In addition Egypt exported about 105,000 pounds of other manufactured tobacco products in 1948. About 44 percent of the total exports of manufactured products went to Saudi Arabia. Other countries taking substantial quantities include the Netherlands, Libya, and Palestine.

# NICARAGUA'S FLUE-CURED PRODUCTION LARGER

Nicaragua's 1948-49 flue-cured tobacco crop was the largest ever produced in that country, according to the American Embassy in Managua. It is estimated at 1,042,000 pounds as compared with only 298,000 pounds in 1947-48 and an annual average of about 412,000 pounds during the 5-year period, 1942-43 through 1946-47.

The increased production is due to larger plantings and above-average yields in 1948-49. The acreage planted to flue-cured tobacco in 1948-49 is placed at about 825 acres as compared with 590 acres in 1947-48 and an annual average of 370 acres in the 1942-43 through 1946-47 period. The 1948-49 yield per acre of 1,260 pounds was 150 percent above the extremely low yield of 505 pounds per acre in 1947-48 and 13 percent above the average yield of 1,113 pounds per acre in the 1942-43 through 1946-47 period.

The entire flue-cured crop is contracted for by the only cigarette company in the country and the acreage planted to the crop has been steadily increasing. The increase has been due to the growing demand for United States-type blended cigarettes. Experiments with growing Burley tobacco, which is also needed for making this type of cigarette, have been made but to date it has not been successfully grown in Nicaragua.

## COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

### COTTON CONSUMPTION IN FINLAND IMPROVING

Cotton consumption in Finland in 1948 was reported at 37,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross weight) representing an increase of nearly 45 percent above that in 1947. It was, however, only 55 percent of the prewar level.

Shortages of labor, raw materials, chemical dyes, and machine replacement parts have limited production since 1939. A number of these factors have improved in 1948. There is still a shortage of workers, however, although more of those who left these jobs during the war are now returning to them. The need is chiefly for women but salaries are too low to attract an adequate labor force. A shortage of dyes continues, although there has been a great improvement since the end of the war.

The number of cotton spindles and looms in place is equal to the prewar level but 20 percent less were in operation than in 1938. However, much of the machinery in use needs replacement or repair parts and is in poor operating condition.

The cotton supply situation has improved in recent months. Loans from the United States and Brazil for cotton purchases in these countries have guaranteed adequate supplies for the remainder of the 1948-49 season. Finland has received a total of \$17 million in cotton credits from the United States since the war. These have been the chief means of keeping Finland's cotton mills supplied with raw materials.

In the 1947-48 season the United States shipped 27,000 bales of cotton to Finland and in the first 8 months of the current season (August through March) has exported 24,560 bales. Finland also received smaller amounts from Brazil, Egypt, the U.S.S.R., India, and Turkey. In general, United States cotton is most desired. Finland has pound sterling available to buy from India and Egypt, but Indian cotton does not meet Finnish quality needs and Egyptian is too expensive.

In the prewar period Finland depended on imports to fill about one-third of its cotton textile requirements. Current imports are much below the prewar level as priority is given to imports of raw materials, machinery, and spare parts for the domestic industry. Imports of finished goods are restricted to conserve foreign exchange.

In 1948, domestic production of cotton textiles was reported at 16.2 million pounds and imports at 4.3 million pounds. This is a total supply of 20.5 million pounds or about 5 pounds per capita. Although this is the highest level attained since the war and 32 percent above 1947 it is still far under the per capita consumption of 9.5 pounds in the prewar period. The greatest unsatisfied demand is for industrial fabrics, household supplies, and better qualities of dress materials, sheetings, and yarn.

#### U.S. COTTON EXPORTS REACHING PREWAR LEVEL

Exports of cotton from the United States in March 1949 amounted to 597,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross) making a total of 3,097,000 bales for the 8 months, August-March 1948-49, compared with 1,356,000 for a similar period in 1947-48. The March export figure is the highest monthly total since February 1940 when a heavy export movement to Western Europe was in process. Exports to European countries during the 8-month period in 1948-49 totaled 2,188,000 bales (including 8,700 to the Soviet Union), or 203 percent higher than the 723,000 bales exported to these countries during a similar period in 1947-48.

The heaviest increases were in exports to Italy, France, United Kingdom, Germany, China, Canada, the Netherlands, and Belgium in that order of importance. Exports to Japan were down by 59,000 bales. Exports of 41,000 bales to Chile and 30,000 to Colombia were significant since exports to these countries were practically non-existent in recent years. Also of significance is the fact that about three-fourths of the 1948-49 exports were moved under the Economic Cooperation and China Aid Programs and special dollar credits provided for countries under Allied military occupation.

UNITED STATES: Exports of cotton by countries of destination,  
average 1934-38, annual 1945-47, Aug.-Mar. 1947-48 and 1948-49

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country	Average	Year beginning August 1				Aug.-Mar.	
	1934-1938	1945	1946	1947	1947-48	1948-49	
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	
	<u>bales</u>	<u>bales</u>	<u>bales</u>	<u>bales</u>	<u>bales</u>	<u>bales</u>	
Austria.....	0	0	4	3	0	41	
Belgium -							
Luxembourg.....	147	75	182	53	44	114	
Czechoslovakia...	65	70	101	22	10	31	
Denmark.....	35	0	0	3	0	21	
Finland.....	35	17	23	27	16	25	
France.....	589	793	393	216	146	432	
Germany.....	579	6	200	232	130	324	
Greece.....	2	31	10	1	1	5	
Italy.....	430	515	460	70	27	431	
Netherlands.....	86	48	116	35	31	114	
Norway.....	13	1	5	3	2	10	
Poland & Danzig..	224	104	49	50	50	63	
Spain.....	101	161	42	3	0	36	
Sweden.....	93	2	23	6	6	1/	
Switzerland.....	2	27	20	3	2	36	
United Kingdom..	1,097	296	486	272	256	452	
Yugoslavia.....	10	94	61	0	0	31	
Other Europe...2/	85	4	0	1	2	22	
Total Europe...	3,593	2,244	2,175	1,000	723	2,188	
Canada.....	261	321	320	138	99	207	
Chile.....	3/	0	0	1/	0	41	
Colombia.....	17	0	1	1	0	30	
Cuba.....	7	6	34	13	13	3	
India.....	44	1/	0	21	0	3	
China.....	55	719	569	303	29	183	
Japan.....	1,271	365	511	466	416	357	
Fr. Indo-China..	3/	3	6	4	4	5	
Korea.....	3/	0	0	59	59	29	
Australia.....	5	13	9	11	11	0	
Other countries..	43	7	17	9	2	4/ 51	
Total.....	5,296	3,678	3,642	2,025	1,356	3,097	

1/. Less than 500 bales. 2/ Includes 39 Portugal, 23 Soviet Union.

3/ If any, included in other countries. 4/ Hong Kong 17.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS  
ON FOREIGN MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price-quotations on foreign markets converted at current rates of exchange:

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, and the  
U.S. gulf-port average

Market location, kind, and quality	Date : 1949	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound
Alexandria	:	: Kantar	:	:	:
Ashmouni, Good.....	5-12	: 99.05 lbs.	: Tallari	: 47.15	: 39.34
Ashmouni, F.G.F.....	"	: "	: "	: 44.65	: 37.26
Karnak, Good.....	"	: "	: "	: 72.30	: 60.33
Karnak, F.G.F.....	"	: "	: "	: 66.80	: 55.74
Bombay	:	: Candy	:	:	:
Jarila, Fine.....	"	: 784 lbs.	: Rupee	: 620.00	: 23.86
Broach, Fine.....	"	: "	: "	: 650.00	: 25.01
Kampala, East African.....	"	: "	: "	:	: (not available)
Karachi	:	: Maund	:	:	:
4F Punjab, S.G., Fine.....	5-11	: 82.28 lbs.	: "	: 87.00	: 31.90
289F Sind, S.G., Fine.....	"	: "	: "	: 84.00	: 34.46
289F Punjab, S.G., Fine....	"	: "	: "	: 97.00	: 35.56
Buenos Aires	:	: Metric ton	:	:	:
Type B.....	5-12	: 2204.6 lbs.	: Peso	: 3850.00	: 51.99
Lima	:	: Sp. quintal	:	:	:
Tanguis, Type 5.....	5-11	: 101.4 lbs.	: Sol	:	: (not quoted)
Pima, Type 1.....	"	: "	: "	:	: (not quoted)
Recife	:	: Arroba	:	:	:
Mata, Type 4.....	5-12	: 33.07 lbs.	: Cruzeiro	: 210.00	: 34.55
Sertao, Type 5.....	"	: "	: "	: 200.00	: 32.90
Sao Paulo	:	:	:	:	:
Sao Paulo, Type 5.....	"	: "	: "	: 199.00	: 32.74
Torreon	:	: Sp. quintal	:	:	:
Middling, 15/16".....	"	: 101.4 lbs.	: Peso	: 197.00	: 24.28
Houston-Galveston-New	:	:	:	:	:
Orleans av. Mid. 15/16"....	"	: Pound	: Cent	: XXXXX	: 32.92

Quotations of foreign markets reported by cable from U. S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U. S. quotations from designated spot markets.

FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTSPOTATO SURPLUSES NOT CONTINUED  
TO THE UNITED STATES

The United States is one of many countries which have a potato surplus this year. Several European countries also report large surpluses, the disposal of which has been a major problem of Governments in recent months. In almost every surplus-producing country people in the potato trade have been pressing for government relief.

Sweden, France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom are some of the more important countries which are suffering from the same over-supply problem which, for some time, has existed in the United States. The excellent growing weather in 1948 was the major cause of the excess in northwestern Europe as well as in North America.

In Sweden for example the 1948 crop was almost one-fifth larger than prewar. Of the total crop of 84 million bushels it is estimated that less than half, or about 33.6 million, will be used for human consumption. About 11 million bushels are required for seed, 6.4 million for the manufacturing of starch and 3.6 million for alcohol. The remainder, of about 11 million bushels, represents loss or utilization for feed. In view of the depressed market conditions in Sweden farm organizations are advising farmers to reduce their acreage of potatoes in 1949. Latest reports indicate that seedings may be reduced in 1949 by 30,000 acres or 18 percent less than the 365,000 acres in 1948.

Expansion of acreage was encouraged by use of government price supports in Sweden as it was in the United States to meet the needs of war. In Sweden, however, acreage is still above prewar, while in the United States it has been declining each year since the high acreage of 1943. To encourage acreage adjustment in line with needs in the United States the price support program, provided by law, has been supplemented by acreage allotments to growers in the last 2 years.

In France the 1948 crop was one of the largest on record--some 700 million bushels. This is 43 percent larger than the 490 million bushel crop in 1947 and 22 percent larger than the 5-year average 1935-39. According to recent reports the abundant crop has resulted in large unsalable surpluses and a very marked drop in price to producers. Potato producers have protested that the French Government should help solve the surplus problem by undertaking an export program. But possibilities for export this season have been limited, because of large potato production in many other European countries. As in the United States, potato production in France has increased while acreage generally has declined. The abundant crop of 1948 derives largely from excellent yields. Preliminary information indicates a decline of 125,000 acres in 1949 from a reported 1948 harvest of 2,960,000 acres.

The 1948 crop in the United Kingdom was reported at 452 million bushels or two and one-half times the prewar production of 180 million bushels. Like the United States, the United Kingdom assured growers of a market, if necessary with the Government. Because of the surpluses the British Government is now requesting farmers to reduce acreage in 1949 to 1,400,000 as compared to 1,548,000 acres in 1948 or a reduction of 10 percent. The 1949 potato plantings in England and Wales was recently indicated at 916,000 acres compared to 1,117,000 last year or a reduction of 18 percent.

While potato surpluses are troublesome in some countries, there are some European countries in which potato production is still below prewar. Austria's output is down 25 percent, Belgium's 15 percent, Czechoslovakia's 32 percent, Luxembourg's 20 percent and Spain's 36 percent. On the whole, European production in 1948 was about 14 percent above prewar, but population has increased almost that much. (For more details regarding the world potato situation see Foreign Crops and Markets of May 2, 1949.)

Following are late revisions of estimated 1948-49 production in four countries:

Country	Estimated production	
	Published May 2, 1949	Revised Estimate
	<u>1,000 bushels</u>	<u>1,000 bushels</u>
France.....	614,575	628,130
Greece.....	11,270	11,520
Sweden.....	79,546	83,630
United Kingdom.....	440,459	458,380

#### ARGENTINE FORAGE CROP SEED SITUATION

The production of alfalfa seed in Argentina is reported to be around 27,500 short tons in 1948-49 compared with about 34,000 tons in 1947-48. Production of sudan grass seed is about 7,700 short tons and Italian ryegrass about 1,650 short tons in 1948-49.

Requirements for forage crop seeds in Argentina appear to have increased somewhat in recent years and as a consequence exportable supplies have decreased. In 1947 only 11 short tons of alfalfa seed were exported compared with around 5,500 tons in 1945 and 1946, respectively. In 1948 none was permitted to be exported. Exporters are requesting permission to export some alfalfa seed in 1949 as it is believed that there will be a surplus of about 3,300 tons. It is not likely, however, that much of this will be granted export permits. Currently prices of exportable quality are quoted at 33-34 cents per pound c. & f. New York or New Orleans. No prices of sudan and ryegrass are being quoted.

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

(Continued from Page 476)

CANADA'S WHEAT SEEDING WELL  
ADVANCED; RAINS NEEDED

Seeding of spring wheat is now well advanced throughout the grain belt of Canada, according to recent reports. The reports stress, however, that general rains are now needed to promote germination and to permit satisfactory completion of seeding.

Moisture deficiencies are particularly serious in Saskatchewan and Alberta. In the former Province, which accounted for almost half of Canada's 1948 production, average precipitation was 70 percent below normal in April. The average for Alberta was 60 percent below normal during the month and in Manitoba was 54 percent below. Above-normal temperatures early in May added to the unfavorable situation.

Weather and moisture conditions in eastern Canada and in British Columbia were reported as generally satisfactory. Seeding was quite well advanced in Ontario and Quebec and had commenced in the Maritime Provinces.

WHEAT FEEDING IN  
CANADA REDUCED

Wheat to be fed in Canada during the current crop year is estimated at 36 million bushels out of the total production of 393 million bushels in 1948. This compares with 34 million fed in 1947-48. Both figures, however, exclude western wheat moving to eastern Provinces and to British Columbia under the freight assistance policy.

Claims filed for shipments under that policy amounted to 6.5 million bushels from the beginning of the crop season, August 1, through February 1949. This was less than half the volume of the shipments for the same period of 1947-48. If shipments for the remainder of the season (March-July) continue at this reduced rate, the total quantity of wheat fed will be smaller than in 1947-48, accounting in large part for the reduction of about 7 million bushels in estimated domestic requirements for this year.

Ontario with 2.6 million bushels shipped from the western Provinces, Quebec with 2.0 million, and British Columbia, with 1.5 million, account for about 95 percent of the total shipped through February of this year. The heaviest use of wheat as feed is reported for Ontario. Estimated use, exclusive of shipments from other Provinces, is 16 million bushels for the current year. Saskatchewan, with 8 million bushels, is the second largest wheat feeder and Alberta is third.

Estimated use of wheat as feed, 1948-49  
with comparisons

Province	1947-48		1948-49	
	Production:	Quantity fed	Production:	Quantity fed and to be fed
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
Ontario.....	18,299	11,528	27,174	16,304
Quebec.....	325	289	478	392
Prince Edward Island.....	97	83	129	101
Nova Scotia.....	25	21	32	26
New Brunswick.....	46	37	73	54
Manitoba.....	42,000	3,700	57,000	3,500
Saskatchewan.....	173,000	8,200	191,000	8,000
Alberta.....	105,000	8,000	115,000	6,400
British Columbia.....	2,966	1,780	2,459	1,451
Total.....	341,758	33,638	393,345	36,228

From reports of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.



